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<b>EXPRESS ABANDONMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.138</b>  Fax directly to the Pre-Grant Publication Division at (703) 305-8568; or mail to: Mail Stop Express Abandonment Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number	10/561,248-Conf. #5986
	Filing Date	May 1, 2006
	First Named Inventor	Hideki Sato
	Art Unit	1709
	Examiner Name	K. T. Chen
	Attorney Docket No.	31238-226493

**Please check only one of boxes 1 or 2 below:**

(If no box is checked, this paper will be treated as a request for express abandonment as if box 1 is checked.)

1.  **Express Abandonment**

I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this paper.

2.  **Express Abandonment in Favor of a Continuing Application**

I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date accorded the continuing application filed previously or herewith.

**NOTE:** A paper requesting express abandonment of an application is not effective unless and until an appropriate USPTO official recognizes and acts on the paper. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), section 711.01.**TO AVOID PUBLICATION, USE FORM PTO/SB/24A INSTEAD OF THIS FORM.****TO REQUEST A REFUND OF SEARCH FEE AND EXCESS CLAIMS FEE (IF ELIGIBLE), USE FORM PTO/SB/24B INSTEAD OF THIS FORM.**

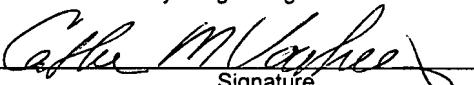
I am the:

applicant.

assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)

attorney or agent of record. Attorney or agent registration number is 33,074

attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34, who is authorized under 37 CFR 1.138(b)  
because the application is expressly abandoned in favor of a continuing  
application (box 2 above must be checked).  
Attorney or agent registration number is \_\_\_\_\_

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
Catherine M. Voorhees  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed or printed name

October 12, 2007  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date  
(202) 344-4000  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number

Note: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

Total of 1 forms are submitted.